

**Specification of John Allen : construction of boilers : apparatus for drying malt, etc. : propelling vessels : applying explosive force of gunpowder to obtain motive power.**

**Contributors**

Allen, John.

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A.D. 1729 . . . . . N<sup>o</sup> 513.

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S P E C I F I C A T I O N

OF

JOHN ALLEN.

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CONSTRUCTION OF BOILERS; APPARATUS  
FOR DRYING MALT, &c.; PROPELLING  
VESSELS; APPLYING EXPLOSIVE FORCE  
OF GUNPOWDER TO OBTAIN MOTIVE  
POWER.

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L O N D O N :

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Construction of Boilers; Apparatus for Drying Malt,  
&c.; Propelling Vessels; Applying Explosive Force  
of Gunpowder to obtain Motive Power.

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ALLEN'S SPECIFICATION.

TO ALL PERSONS TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME,  
JOHN ALLEN, Doctor in Physick, sendeth greeting.

WHEREAS His most Sacred Majesty King George the Second, by the  
Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, by His Letters Patent,  
5 bearing date at Westminster, the Seventh day of August, in the third year of  
His reigne, reciting, that the said John Allen had by his Petiçon humbly  
represented to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, Guardian of the King-  
dom, &c., that he had, by repeated experiments, long study, and at a very great  
expence, invented and brought to perfection "A NEW METHOD OF HEATING AND  
10 BOYLING WATER AND OTHER LIQUORS, WITH FAR LESS EXPENCE OF FUEL THAN BY  
ANY METHOD NOW IN USE, WHICH WILL BE OF GREAT SERVICE IN THE WORKING OF  
ENGINES FOR THE RAISING OF WATER BY FIRE, AND ALSO IN BREWING, DISTILLING,  
AND ALL OTHER USES WHERE GREAT FIRES ARE REQUIRED;" that the said John Allen  
had also discovered "A NEW INVENTION FOR THE APPLICATION OF CERTAIN-POWERS,  
15 (NEVER BEFORE MADE USE OF FOR THE LIKE PURPOSES,) TO GIVE MOTIONS TO ENGINES,  
WHEREBY A SHIP MAY BE NAVIGATED IN A CALM, FROM WHENCE INNUMERABLE  
ADVANTAGES WILL ACCREW IN SAILING, AND BE A GREAT PRESERVAÇON TO HIS  
MAJESTY'S SUBJECTS IN ENGAGEMENTS AT SEA; AND WILL ALSO BE OF GREAT USE IN  
DRAINING OF MINES, AND FOR THE PERFORMING OTHER GREAT WORKS WHERE FORCE



*Allen's Impts. in Construction of Steam Boilers; Appar. for Drying Malt, &c.*

IS REQUIRED;" that the said John Allen had likewise invented and brought to perfection "A METHOD TO DRY MALT WITH ANY SORT OF FUEL, AFTER A DIFFERENT MANNER FROM ANY HITHERTO USED, WHEREBY THE MALT WILL BE RENDER'D SWEETER, AND THE BEER BREWED THEREWITH WILL BE MUCH MORE PLEASANT AND WHOLESOME;" the said John Allen did most humbly pray that Her Majesty, (as an encourage- 5 ment for the great expence and trouble he had been at in bringing the said Inventions to perfection,) would be graciously pleased to grant him His Majesty's Royall Letters Patent, for the sole benefitt and advantage thereof for the terme of fourteen years, according to the Statute in that case made and provided; Her said Majesty hath been graciously pleased, for and on the behalf 10 of His Majesty, His heirs and successors, to cause Letters Patent to pass under His Majestie's Great Seale of Great Britaine, giving and granting unto the said John Allen, his executors, administrators, and assignes, especial license, full power, sole priviledge and authority, that he, the said John Allen, his executors, administrators, and assignes, and every of them, by himself and 15 themselves, or by his and their deputy and deputys, servants or agents, or such others as he, the said John Allen, his executors, administrators, or assignes, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times thereafter during the term of years in the said Letters Patent expressed, should and lawfully might make, exercise, use, and enjoy, within that part 20 of Great Britaine called England, the Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, his said severall and respective Inventions therein set forth and described, in such manner as to him, the said John Allen, his executors, administrators, or assignes, or any of them, should in their discretions seem meet; and that he, the said John Allen, his executors, adminis- 25 trators, and assignes, should and lawfully might have and enjoy the whole profit, benefitt, comodity, and advantage from time to time coming, growing, accrewing, and arising by reason of the said Invençons; to have, hold, exercise, and enjoy the said licence, powers, priviledges, and advantages therein-before granted or mençoned to be granted to the said John Allen, his executors, 30 administrators, and assignes, for and during and unto the full end and terme of fourteen years from the date of the said Letters Patent next and immediately ensuing, and fully to be compleat and ended, according to the Statute in that case made and provided.

NOW KNOW YE, that I, the said John Allen, do hereby declare that the 35 following account is an exact and particular descripçon of the nature and methods of my said Inventions (that is to say):—

The new method of heating and boiling water or other liquors with far



*Allen's Impts. in Construction of Steam Boilers; Appar. for Drying Malt, &c.*

less expence of fuell, as above mençoned, is as follows (viz<sup>t</sup>):—By making the fire in the center or midst of the water or liquor to be heated or boiled in a vessell of copper, brass, or iron, &c., of a peculiar form or figure; and the outside vessell containing the water to be boiled may be made of wood, lead, or  
 5 any other materiall that will hold water. By this Invention the whole force and energy of the fire is employed solely in heating the liquor, and far less expence of fuell will be required; and also upon occasion a copper worm may be added, and a large pair of bellows made use of, particularly in relation to the engine, to raise water by the impellent force of fire, which will receive great  
 10 improvement by this method of managing the fire here described. The new Invention for the application of certain powers to give motion to engines, &c., is performed in manner following, viz<sup>t</sup>:—For navigating a ship in a calm, my method will be effected by forcing water or some other fluid thro' the stern or hinder part of the ship, at a convenient distance, under the surface of  
 15 the water into the sea, by proper engines placed within the ship. Amongst the severall and peculiar engines I have invented for this purpose is one of a very extraordinary nature, whose operation is owing to the explosion of gunpowder. I having found out a method of firing gunpowder in clauso or in a confined place, whereby I can apply the whole force of it, which is incon-  
 20 ceivably great, so as to communicate motion to a great variety of engines, which may be also applyed for draining of mines and other purposes. And also my new method for drying malt with any sort of fuell, as above mençoned, is in manner following, viz<sup>t</sup>:—By laying the malt to dry on a stratum of boyling water, included in a flat machine or furnace, artfully placed in a proper  
 25 kilne for that purpose, so that by the intervention of the water between the fire and the malt, the malt is dried in a very gentle and uniform manner, without danger of being burnt or smoaked.

In witness whereof, I, the said John Allen, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this First day of September, in the third year of the reign  
 30 of our Sovereigne Lord George the Second, by the Grace of God, King of of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and twenty-nine.

JOHN ALLEN.

35 Sealed and delivered, being first duly stampd,  
 in the presence of

CARLETON HAYWARD.

ROBERT SALKELD.



*Allen's Impts. in Construction of Steam Boilers; Appar. for Drying Malt, &c.*

ALLEN.

ET MEMORANDUM, quod pred̄co primo die Septembris, p̄d̄c̄us Joh̄es Allen venit coram d̄co D̄ño Rege in Can̄ sua, et recogn̄ script̄ p̄d̄, ac ōia et singul̄ in eadem content̄ et sp̄ificat̄ in forma p̄d̄. Neenon script̄ p̄d̄ impress̄ fuit sc̄dm tenor̄ Statut̄ fact̄ anno r̄ni Gulielmi et Marie Regis et Regine Anglie, &c. sexto.

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Ir̄r p̄d̄ primo die Septembris.

LONDON:

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Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1854.